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SOURCE Pod Zastavom Internacionalsma [anti-Tito emigre newspaper], 1949.

"VOLUNTARY" YOUTH BRIGADES ATTACKED

While the entire Yugoslav press trumpets about the fulfillment of the plans and the "voluntary" brigades of People's Youth, Yugoslavs ask, "Are they talking about Yugoslavia or a foreign country?" A foreign country, without question, for the Tito clique knows that no youth in Yugoslavia voluntarily joins the labor brigades.

The Central Committee of People's Youth allocates a number of youth to labor brigades without regard to the facts. The Party organizations in the villages cannot fulfill their plans, so they resort to compulsion exercised through the local governments. Kulaks almost never go. Youth who are selected to join brigades receive a summons from the Local People's Council, (as in Podunavlje Srez) or are simply told by the recruiter, "You have to go" (as in Arbuskovic, Resava, Pomorava, Zvizd, Krajina, and other srez). How far compulsion is carried is shown by the example of the secretary of the Srez Committee of People's Youth of Pančevo, who informed a village official by telephone that his head would be cut off if he did not send the stipulated number of youth for the brigade by the following day.

Still the plans are not fulfilled. Morava, Zvizd, Pomorava, Resava, Podunavlje, Ravаница, Radjevina, and other srez failed to meet their plans and had to round up a supplementary group of youth in the same manner.

The secretary of the Uzice Srez Committee of People's Youth brought up in a conference in the Uzice Oblast Committee the problem of youth who run away from the New Belgrade construction project and hide from further conscription. This is no isolated case; youth from all srez run away.

In spite of all sorts of compulsory measures, the plan for draft animals for forest exploitation in Homolje, Zvizd, Morava, and other srez has failed by one third. The manpower plan of the Serbian Ministry of Labor has met the same fate. In Serbia the plan for the first 3 months of 1949 was 75 percent short of fulfillment, and in some srez, including Vlasotince and Jablanica, it was not fulfilled by even 5 percent. Neither conferences in the Ministry of Labor, meetings in the srez, orders to members of the Srez Committee to furnish manpower, nor other measures could force youth into the mines and other labor projects.

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